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rancher, farmer-based. And I believe that Section 7 does outline those different areas. So again, I want to...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR STUHR: ...emphasize, yes, I know that we must do priorities. I would hope that at least we could move this bill on and, as we've done in some other areas, when we get further into the budget year, we could make some adjustments. I know that that is always possible. But I just want to emphasize that the demand is there. Every single dollar was spent and there weren't enough dollars to use for all of the projects that were requested. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Stuhr. Senator Fischer.

SENATOR FISCHER: Mr. President and members of the body, we've heard it said today that we need to look at where we are spending our money in this state, and I agree with that. That's a true statement. It's also been said we need to look at the total picture, and at the total state, is how I would continue that statement. Does this bill fit into our general economic picture in this state? I believe it does. You've heard me say many times before I believe that this state needs to make a commitment to rural Nebraska. Rural individuals in rural communities are suffering. In my district, the 43rd District, we have three of the poorest counties in the United States, three in the top ten, and we're struggling to maintain businesses and also, in order to maintain those businesses, we have to have young people remain in rural Nebraska. I think some of you probably saw in the Sunday paper there was an article on the front page about Mullen, Nebraska, and Mullen is in Hooker County, which is in my district. This article spoke about a young man named Trent Wilson who went to mechanic school in 1998 and he never planned on coming back to Mullen, Nebraska, or to Hooker County, but he is back and he has started a repair shop. He has a partner and there is an essential business that's growing. About two years ago, Mullen came close to losing several of its local merchants. If you look at that and also at the rankings that show that the area has some of the lowest per capita income in the nation, that served as a wake-up